

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed 27 December 2005, the Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the above-captioned application in view of the above amendments and the following comments.

Originally, Claims 1-25 were pending in this application. Claims 3, 11, 22-23 and 25 are withdrawn in response to the Examiner's requirement for restriction. With this amendment, Claims 1-9 and 13-25 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 12 has been amended. After entry of this Amendment, Claims 10 and 12 remain pending.

Drawing Objections

The Examiner has objected to the drawings for failing to show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. With this amendment, the Applicants have canceled all claims that included features that the Examiner found lacking in the figures. The Applicants submit that in light of the amended claims, the drawings as originally submitted comply with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a) and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the drawings.

Specification Informalities

The Examiner has noted a number of informalities in the specification. The Applicants have amended the specification as noted above to address these informalities. The Applicants submit that with the entry of these amendments, the informality of the specification has been resolved and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection for informality from the specification as amended.

Antecedent Basis

The Examiner has further objected to the specification for failing to provide antecedent basis for certain language found in Claims 16 and 24. The Applicants have canceled Claims 16 and 24 and submit that this eliminates any basis for the Examiner's objection.

Claim objections

The Applicants have amended Claims 6 and 12 to address the informalities objected to by the Examiner. Claims 19 and 20 have been canceled. The Applicants believe that with these amendments, the informalities have been addressed and requests that the Examiner withdraw any objections for informality to the claims as amended herein.

Claim Rejections

With the cancellation of Claims 1-9 and 13-25, the Examiner's rejections of these claims are moot. The remaining pending claims, specifically Claims 10 and 12, have been rejected by the Examiner. Claim 10 was rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,104,287 to Ciokajlo, and Claim 12 was rejected as being unpatentable over Ciokajlo in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,810,365 to Brandon. These rejections are addressed below.

Rejection of Claim 10

The Examiner has rejected Claim 10 as being anticipated by Ciokajlo. The Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection and note that every limitation of Claim 10 is not found in the cited reference. Claim 10 recites in part "at least one displacement apparatus in operable communication with the first segment and the second segment". The Examiner suggests that the displacement apparatuses, identified as 142/144 in the Ciokajlo reference (see Figure 10) are configured to be in operable communication with the first stator carrier segment and the second stator carrier segment. However, this is not the case.

Each displacement apparatus in the Ciokajlo reference is only configured to be in operable communication with a single stator carrier segment. This can be seen clearly in Figure 10, in which it is shown the displacement apparatus extends radially inward from the outer housing toward the stator carrier segment 120A. With each displacement apparatus arranged radially and designed to displace the stator carrier 120A from the housing, no displacement apparatus is in operable communication with more than one

stator carrier segment. With the collective body of displacement apparatuses may be operable with more than one segment, each displacement apparatus operates in Ciokajlo operates with only a single segment.

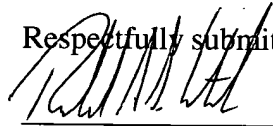
Because Claim 10 recites that at least one displacement apparatus is in operable communication with both the first segment and the second segment, the displacement apparatuses 142 of Ciokajlo cited by the Examiner do not teach every limitation of Claim 10. Because every feature of Claim 10 is not taught by the cited reference, the Applicants submit that the rejection of Claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102 over Ciokajlo is improper. The Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection from Claim 10 and, as there are no other rejections to this Claim, pass this Claim to allowance.

Rejection of Claim 12

The Examiner has rejected Claim 12 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Ciokajlo in view of Brandon. The Applicants note that Claim 12 depends from Claim 10 and includes every limitation of Claim 10. In light of the discussion of Claim 10 above, the Applicants submit that Claim 12 is allowable on the basis of being dependent off of an allowable independent claim. On this basis, the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejection of Claim 12 and pass this claim to allowance.

If any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is invited to telephone the Applicant's counsel at the number provided below so that a resolution can be most effectively reached.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date